PROPOSITION 74

Proposition 74 " "Put The Kids First Act"

Pro Rebuttal Argument

Don't be misled by opponents of 74. They don't want real education reform. Their solution is to keep throwing billions of new tax dollars every year at a system that is rife with waste and bureaucratic regulations.

We need to put more money into our classrooms, instead of wasting it on poor performing teachers, outrageous legal costs and bureaucratic rules and regulations.

Today, it's almost impossible to replace poor performing teachers who have what amounts to "guaranteed employment for life" -- an antiquated system that wastes taxpayer money and ultimately hurts our children:

The Riverside Press Enterprise reported several years ago on a case where a teacher called her students derogatory names, swore at them, showed R-rated movies and once even sent a 4th grade student to her car to retrieve a butcher knife. Was she fired? No! She was paid \$25,000 to quit.

Rather than pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to lawyers and conduct lengthy and useless dismissal proceedings, school districts are forced to actually pay teachers to resign because of outdated tenure laws.

Prop. 74 protects and rewards good teachers, but makes it possible to replace poor-performing teachers in a responsible and objective manner:

- Requires teachers perform well on the job for five years instead of two before becoming eligible for tenure.
- Makes it possible and less expensive to remove a poor-performing teacher after two unsatisfactory evaluations.

Vote "YES on 74" - Responsible reforms to improve our public schools.

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Dr. Peter G. Mehas, Superintendent, Fresno County Office of Education

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SUBJECT TO COURT ORDERED CHANGES